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| To: Commissioner for Patents for Examiner Liang-Che A. Wang Group Art Unit 2155 | Facsimile No.: 703/872-9306 |
| From: A.J. Jiménez Legal Assistant to Betty Formby | No. of Pages Including Cover Sheet: 5 |
| Message: Enclosed herewith: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transmittal Document; and• Reply Brief. | |
| Re: Application No. 09/550,181 Attorney Docket No: AUS000078US1 | |
| Date: Wednesday, May 25, 2005 | |
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Tran

Serial No.: 09/550,181

Filed: April 14, 2000

For: Method and Apparatus for
Maintaining State Information for
Web Pages Using a Directory Server

35525

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE
CUSTOMER NUMBER

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Group Art Unit: 2155

Examiner: Wang, Liang-Che A.

Attorney Docket No.: AUS000078US1

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TRANSMITTAL DOCUMENT

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ENCLOSED HEREWITH:

- Reply Brief (37 C.F.R. 41.41).

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Respectfully submitted,



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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REPLY BRIEF (37 C.F.R. 41.41)

No fees are believed to be required to file a Reply Brief. Any required petition for extension of time for filing this brief and fees therefore, are dealt with in the accompanying TRANSMITTAL OF REPLY BRIEF.

PAGE 3/5 * RCVD AT 5/25/2005 5:31:58 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/0 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID:9723857766 * DURATION (mm:ss):01:38

ARGUMENTS

Regarding the rejection of claims 1, 13, 21, 29, 32, and 38, which include all of the independent claims in this appeal, the Examiner's Answer states, "*The only difference between Larsen and the claimed invention is the 'background application'.*"¹ It is submitted that this is simply not true.

The instant application notes, in the field of the invention, "*The present invention is directed to a method and apparatus for maintaining state information for Web pages using a directory server.*"² The application then goes on to define what it means by state information, noting, "*Maintaining state information means remembering information while the user moves from Web page to Web page within a Web site. If a user moves beyond the next Web page to another Web page in the Web site, the state information for the first Web page will be lost.*"³ Note that maintaining state information is about saving user-entered information within a website. The claims also reflect this aim, as exemplified by claim 1, whose preamble recites, "*a method for maintaining state information for Web pages*". Additionally, since the user-entered information is only for use within the website, when the method of claim 1 "*stor[es] the user input*", it also stores "*a corresponding Web page identifier*" to tie the user information to a specific web page.

In contrast, Larsen is directed to "*a data processing system for automatically completing forms displayed on users web browsers.*"⁴ Larsen specifically mentions that it "*is therefore the object of this invention to supply multiple users of the global information network with a convenient method of automatically completing multiple forms for multiple companies or regulatory agencies, by filing out the information once on any form presented on the user's web browser.*" Obviously, the multiple companies to which Larsen refers do not maintain a joint website. Rather, Larsen is storing standard user information that may be asked for by multiple companies on multiple websites. It is submitted that Larsen does not need to know a web page associated with the information; Larsen needs to know the user with whom the information is associated. It is further submitted that Larsen does not even mention state information or make

¹ Examiner's answer, page 11, last two lines

² Page 1, lines 7-9 of application as filed

³ Page 4, lines 6-11 of application, underlining added for emphasis

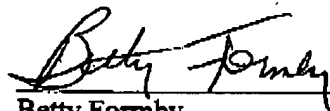
⁴ Larson, column 1, lines 6-10, underlining added

any suggestion that there is such a thing as state information for a web page. Consequently, it is difficult to imagine how Larsen could show storing a corresponding Web page identifier.

It is submitted that the arguments above point out a clear distinction between Larsen and the presently claimed invention. The assertion that, "*The only difference between Larsen and the claimed invention is the "background application"*" is simply not true. It is asserted that the claimed invention distinguishes over Larsen and Kavner.

Conclusion

The Board of Appeals is respectfully requested to reverse the decision of the Examiner and to allow the claims presently under appeal.



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